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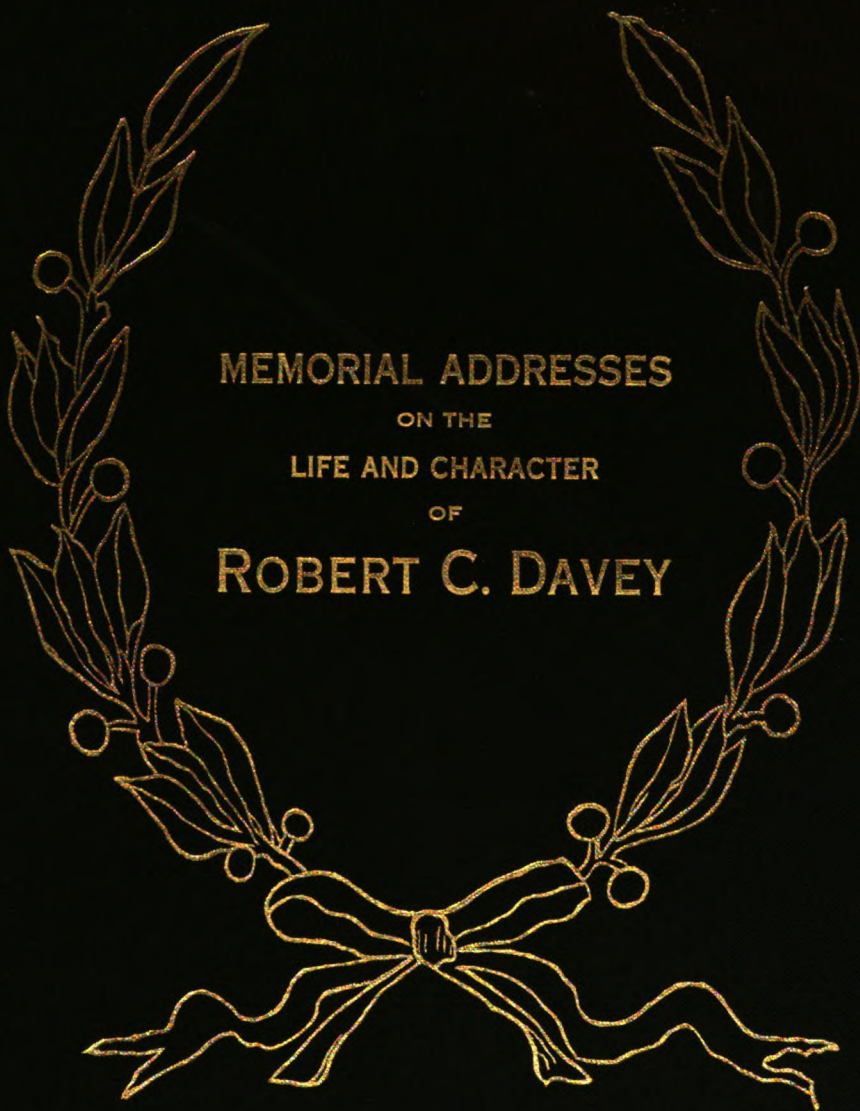
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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES  
ON THE  
LIFE AND CHARACTER  
OF  
ROBERT C. DAVEY

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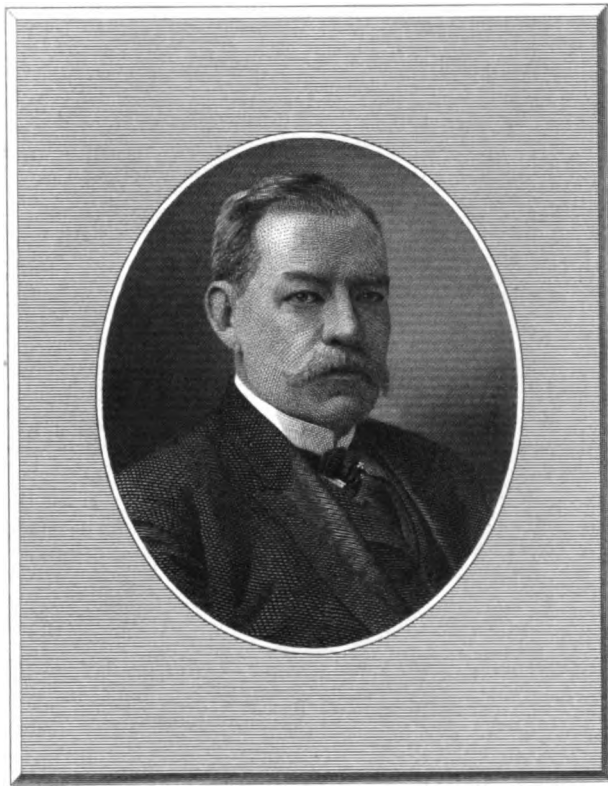




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HON. ROBERT C. DAVINY



# ROBERT C. DAWSON

CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## MEMORIAL ADDRESS

DELIVERED BY

REPRESENTATIVE

OF THE

SIXTY-TH

SECOND

Proceedings in the House  
March 20, 1910

COMPILED UNDER THE DIRECTION  
OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING



WASHINGTON  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
1911







# ROBERT C. DAVEY

(Late a Representative from Louisiana)

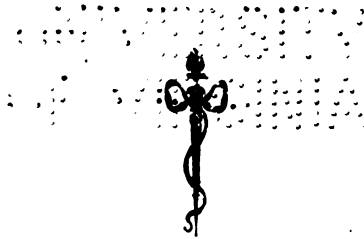
## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

DELIVERED IN THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
SIXTY-FIRST CONGRESS  
SECOND SESSION

Proceedings in the House  
March 20, 1910

Proceedings in the Senate  
April 18, 1910

COMPILED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF  
THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING



WASHINGTON  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
1911



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## DEATH OF HON. ROBERT C. DAVEY

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### PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE

MONDAY, *January 4, 1910.*

The House met at 12 o'clock m.

The Chaplain, Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D., delivered the following prayer:

Our Father in Heaven, we hail with joy and gratitude the new year, with all its hopes and promises, its manifold opportunities, and far-reaching possibilities.

We confess with penitent hearts our weaknesses, our sins, our failures, as individuals and as a nation.

And we most fervently pray that "forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before, we press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

We deplore, beyond our poor power to express, the terrible calamity which has befallen the people of Italy, our sister nation. But we bless Thy holy name for the spontaneous outburst of brotherly love and sympathy which is going out from all the world to succor and alleviate the stricken people bereft of home and dear ones. Comfort them, we beseech Thee, with the blessed thought that in life or death nothing can separate them from Thy love and care.

Since we last met in this Hall the Death Angel has visited the congressional family and removed from our



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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midst a wise and efficient Member, a patriotic citizen, a faithful servant of his people. Comfort his bereaved family, friends, and colleagues by the precious hope of immortality, and everlasting praise be Thine, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Mr. BROUSSARD. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sorrow that I announce to the Members of this House the death of Hon. ROBERT C. DAVEY, for many years a Member of Congress from the second congressional district of Louisiana.

At a later day I shall ask the House to set apart a day for the Members to pronounce eulogies on the life, character, and services of the deceased Member. I now ask unanimous consent for the immediate consideration of the resolutions which I send to the Clerk's desk.

The Clerk read as follows:

*Resolved*, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. ROBERT C. DAVEY, a Representative from the State of Louisiana.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

*Resolved*, That as a further mark of respect this House do now adjourn.

The resolutions were agreed to.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 7 minutes p. m.) the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, *March 12, 1910.*

The House met at 12 o'clock noon.

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D.

Mr. BROUSSARD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent for the present consideration of the order which I send to the Clerk's desk.



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PROCEEDINGS IN THE HOUSE

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The SPEAKER. The gentleman from Louisiana offers the following order, which the Clerk will report.

The Clerk read as follows:

Order 7

*Ordered*, That there be a session of the House at 1 o'clock p. m. Sunday, March 20, 1910, for the delivery of eulogies on the life, character, and public services of the Hon. ROBERT C. DAVEY, late a Member of the House of Representatives from Louisiana.

The order was agreed to.

SUNDAY, *March 20, 1910.*

The House met at 1 o'clock p. m.

Mr. William J. Browning, as Chief Clerk, called the House to order and read the following:

I hereby designate Hon. Robert F. Broussard, of Louisiana, Speaker pro tempore for this day.

J. G. CANNON,  
*Speaker.*

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. Henry N. Couden, D. D., as follows:

Our Father in Heaven, we are assembled here on this sacred day to fulfill a sacred duty in memory of one who for many years faithfully and conscientiously served his State and Nation upon the floor of this House, and when the summons which awaits us all came, he passed to the unknown, where under the benign influences of a heavenly Father he still lives.

Grant, O most merciful Father, that we may so order our lives that when the call comes we shall be ready to enter into that larger life fully prepared to do the work which Thou hast in store for us. We thank Thee for the tender ties of friendship, home, and kindred; and we pray



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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most fervently for those who were thus bound to him, especially his children, that they may be comforted and sustained in the blessed hope of immortality and in the consciousness of Thy love, which changes not, and which at last shall unite them again in the blessed bonds which shall never be broken. And songs of praises we will ever give to Thee in the spirit of the Master. Amen.

The Journal of the proceedings of yesterday was read and approved.

Mr. GILMORE. Mr. Speaker, I offer the following resolution, which I send to the desk and ask to have read.

The Clerk read as follows:

House resolution 503

*Resolved*, That the business of the House be now suspended that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. ROBERT C. DAVEY, late a Member of this House from the State of Louisiana.

*Resolved*, That as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his distinguished public career, the House, at the conclusion of these exercises, shall stand adjourned.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The question was taken, and the resolution was unanimously agreed to.



## MEMORIAL ADRESSES

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### ADDRESS OF MR. GILMORE, OF LOUISIANA

On Tuesday, the 29th of December, 1908, a vast concourse of people assembled at one of the historical churches of the city of New Orleans, and thence followed to the tomb the mortal remains of ROBERT C. DAVEY, who departed this life in that city on the preceding Saturday, after a stubborn and courageous fight against disease with which he had long striven, oftentimes with apparent success. No military glitter or display had attracted the attention of idle people and swelled the lengthy procession which accompanied him to the grave. The great outpouring of citizens from every walk and station of life was a fitting testimonial of his personal merit, his many genuine friendships, and convincing evidence of the high esteem in which he was held universally.

I have ever felt sure that one of the genuine friendships of which I have spoken existed between Mr. DAVEY and myself. For many years I noted with pleasure the steadfast hold he had upon the affections of the people among whom he lived, and who out of their regard for him so often distinguished him with deserved public honors, and now that one of the highest of these honors has been bestowed upon me, both friendship and duty impel me to pay such tribute as I can to his memory, long to remain fragrant among us.



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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ROBERT CHARLES DAVEY was born in New Orleans, October 22, 1853. He attended several schools, private and public, among them the boys' high school. In 1871 he was graduated from St. Vincent's College, Cape Girardeau, Mo. His father had desired him to become a lawyer, but he preferred to embark in commercial business. He began his political career as a member of the Democratic State central committee in the latter seventies, having taken an active part in the stir and turmoil of the preceding period, shouldering a musket in the battle for political freedom, September 14, 1874, never to be forgotten in the Crescent City. It is to be remarked that with the exception of one term Mr. DAVEY served continuously until his death as a member of the State central committee.

In 1879 he was elected to the State senate and served in that body until his election to Congress in 1892, acting in 1884 and 1886 as president pro tempore. He also served as judge of the first recorder's court of New Orleans for two terms, from 1880 until 1888. In 1888 he was the candidate of the regular Democratic Party for mayor of New Orleans, but was defeated by an independent movement, although he ran far ahead of his ticket.

Mr. DAVEY entered Congress in 1893 as a Member of this House, being reelected every term thereafter except in 1894, when he declined the honor and personally placed in nomination his successor, Charles F. Buck.

It is needless for me to review his congressional career; you are all familiar with it, and remember the places of distinction and responsibility which he enjoyed and creditably filled in this honorable body. Suffice it to note that the dean of the Louisiana delegation at the time of his death was the ranking minority member of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce; that he was ever fully posted, always alive and active, kept all his engagements and neglected none of the duties he owed to his



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ADDRESS OF MR. GILMORE, OF LOUISIANA

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constituents and the country, to the manifest satisfaction of the former and the lasting benefit of the latter.

Mr. DAVEY made no pretensions to oratory. Nevertheless he was a clear, forceful talker when he could be induced to speak publicly, as is well known to those who accompanied him in political campaigning. He was modest and unassuming, and naturally, therefore, was at his best in committee work and such other business as specially calls for assiduity, knowledge of affairs, keenness of apprehension, and the weight of that influence which is always wielded by one who is universally loved, trusted, and respected.

Judge DAVEY, as he was popularly called by his constituents, was a kindly man, doing much good and no harm or ill of any sort. He was a generous man, ready to assist with word, act, or purse. He possessed, furthermore, that cheerfulness of disposition which so often accompanies kindliness and generosity and makes a man not only admired for his tolerance, beneficence, and charity, but beloved for the sunshine that beams from his whole being, thaws out any frostiness in his fellows, and kindles in their souls the bright flames and wooing warmth of joy and happiness.

He was a loyal man, true to his friends, his cause, his duty, unswerving in integrity, and all too courageous, too manly to deal in deceit, subterfuge, or evasion. Colonel Hepburn said of him :

He was universally popular. He was the keenest and most straightforward man that I have ever known. I never saw the slightest semblance of a lie about him, and held him in the highest esteem, as did every member of the committee with whom he served for 10 or 12 years. There is the deepest regret among the Members of the House at the news of his death.



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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There is in Louisiana the deepest regret at his death, which closed untimely a life of private beneficence, a career of public usefulness. He has left his people there, and his friends and fellow-Members here, a loss to deplore, a loving personality to remember. He is not dead, but gone to receive in the abode of everlasting peace and happiness the fadeless diadem, the ever-shining crown bespoken in the promise of the Book of Books:

Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.



ADDRESS OF MR. WANGER, OF PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. SPEAKER: Responding to custom and the call of duty we are assembled to pay a merited tribute to one of the most modest and unwavering servants of the American people in the discharge of the duty of a Representative in the American Congress that it has been my privilege to know. One who was not brilliant in debate or showy in the display of those qualities with which he was endowed, yet who by patient endeavor steadily directed to the achievement of the tasks devolving upon him wrought substantial achievements and was entitled to the honor arising from accomplished deeds.

I first know ROBERT CHARLES DAVEY in the Fifty-third Congress, and then observed the qualities which bound so many to him and commanded and enjoyed the respect of all his fellow-Members and acquaintances. Service with him during and from the Fifty-fifth until the last Congress upon the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce ripened the acquaintance, strengthened the friendship, and enlarged the knowledge of his worthy qualities, so that when the news of his demise came it gave me unfeigned grief, although not surprise, because of knowledge of the heart affection from which he had suffered for some years.

In one respect Mr. DAVEY showed marked contradictions. Usually a very strict party man, believing in and acting in accordance with the dictates of party discipline, yet on more than one notable occasion his action was against the behest of party and in accordance with his



conception of duty to his district and the country. Only a man of courage of his party affiliation could have cast his vote against the adoption of the Wilson bill and against agreeing to the Senate amendments thereto, and in a later Congress cast his vote for the passage of the Dingley bill. That he knew the vote against the first-named measure was not to his personal advantage was evidenced by his declination of a renomination; and that he remained in good fellowship with his party associates notwithstanding these votes was evidenced by the fond regard they had for him as a man and confidence in his integrity as a legislator.

It was doubtless love for Louisiana that caused him to vote as he did upon tariff questions, and it was the same love and desire to serve his people which prompted his sturdy efforts for the enlargement of the jurisdiction of the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service, especially in 1906, and the provision that was then made to guard the country against epidemics, and especially the Southland against another epidemic of yellow fever, with which it was then threatened. It was in connection with this legislation that I came in closer association with him and saw more of his persistent labor and sacrifice than at any other time. The bill as reported and passed by the House was complicated with provisions which were distasteful to him; yet, to attain the end and, as he believed, to save the people of the States threatened with fever invasion from the panic and the sickness and probably the many deaths which would have followed such invasion, he steadily pressed for its favorable report and passage, regarding that end of higher importance than anything else.

Yet personal fear had nothing to do with his battle against the recurrence of yellow fever, for he was himself immune; and it was to save his imperiled countrymen that he labored with Members and committees and depart-



ments, and finally had the supreme pleasure of witnessing the triumph of his labors.

The experience of Mr. DAVEY as a State senator of Louisiana, as judge of the first recorder's court of New Orleans, as candidate, though unsuccessful, for mayor of that city, and as Member of this House, added to his education and early training, made him a safe and prudent counselor, and the practical wisdom and pure patriotism which he unostentatiously showed gave great weight to his suggestions and accounted for his influence in committee and with Members generally.

With a rich fund of humor and of anecdote there was no trifling in his make-up, so that he was always the agreeable companion and the respected colaborer, with scrupulous regard for the faithful fulfillment of all his undertakings.

The tribute which his committee paid him in providing for a revenue cutter to be stationed with headquarters at his city and to bear his name—the only instance when the latter honor was bestowed—demonstrated the high esteem and regard of his fellow-committeemen for him, and these most forcefully, he being a minority member of the committee.

In the death of our colleague Louisiana lost a Representative ever alert to ably defend and protect her interests and the Nation a servant who was proud to subordinate even the beloved title of Louisianian to the prouder one of an American, and who, in the manner in which he served it in this legislative Chamber is entitled to the commendation "Well done, good and faithful servant." Those of us who knew his good and gentle qualities will ever cherish his memory, and none can measure the extent to which the present and generations yet to come have reaped and will reap rich fruits from his labors.



ADDRESS OF MR. RANDELL, OF LOUISIANA

MR. SPEAKER: It is a sad duty that impels me to speak of the lamented ROBERT C. DAVEY, late a Member of this body from the second congressional district of Louisiana. He was my good friend, and the words I shall utter come from a heart which loved him and holds his memory dear.

When Judge DAVEY departed this life his State lost a faithful, efficient servant, his children a devoted father, and his hosts of friends a generous, big-hearted associate who loved them well, and whose death leaves a vacancy that can never be filled.

My first real insight into the noble, unselfish character of the judge occurred during my first year in Congress. Mr. George J. Gould, president of the Missouri Pacific Railway, desired to construct a railroad bridge across Red River near its mouth, and about six days before the close of the session he wired to the Senators and Representatives from Louisiana requesting the passage of a special act permitting it. The Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, of which Judge DAVEY was a member and which has charge of all bridge bills, had adjourned for the session, and he promptly telegraphed Mr. Gould that it was too late—nothing could be done. Similar telegrams were sent by others of the delegation. Realizing the vast importance of this bridge to my district, which had no railroad adjacent and parallel to the Mississippi River, I introduced a bill at once and appealed to Judge DAVEY to help me secure its passage. He knew the



difficulty, and had just declared in his telegram that such a law could not be passed so near the close of the session, but without hesitation and in complete effacement of self he promised to do his best. We promptly saw Col. Peter Hepburn, chairman of the committee to which my bill had been referred, who authorized the judge to call a meeting instantan if a quorum could be secured.

By the most persistent and active effort on the judge's part and personal appeals to Members to attend, a meeting was finally secured and the bill was favorably reported. I then asked recognition from Speaker Henderson for the purpose of calling it up and placing it upon passage. He refused to give it to me, whereupon Judge DAVEY himself demanded recognition for that purpose, secured it, and remained on the floor for hours awaiting his turn, till finally he got the Speaker's eye and the work was done. Senator McEnery rushed this bill through the Senate, acting as nicely about it there as Judge DAVEY had done in the House. All of the credit was given to me by the press, which published a nice story on the subject in the papers of my section, when in reality I had done practically nothing except to secure the all-powerful help of Judge DAVEY. Very few men would have aided another to accomplish a thing of this kind, which they had said could not be done, and after completion have declined any credit for it.

I have gone into detail about this matter because it reveals the noble unselfishness, disinterestedness, and generosity which were such strong traits of our deceased friend, and I have never known a man in whom they were more highly developed.

The judge was unusually kind and considerate to young Members, always ready with good advice and a helping hand, though very retiring and tactful and rarely offering suggestions unless called upon. I frequently asked his



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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counsel and assistance, and never in vain. He willingly gave his time and attention to assist any colleague, and his good nature was often imposed upon.

Other striking characteristics of the judge were his modesty and common sense. His powers of analysis were excellent. When any proposition of difficult solution was presented he would listen to the discussion for a few minutes, and then in quick, terse sentences dissect it thoroughly, get at the meat of it, and suggest a plan of settlement which was usually adopted.

I have never known a person possessed of less desire for recognition and prominence. He rarely ever made a speech in the House, and when he did his remarks were concise and clear, but every interest of Louisiana was watched by him like a hawk, and he was faithful to all of his congressional duties.

Judge DAVEY was one of the most popular men in the House of Representatives. Everyone knew him and liked him. He was genial and simple in his manners; easy of approach; as courteous and cordial to the humblest employee as to the most prominent Member of the House. Indeed, he was best known and loved for the little things that sweeten our daily intercourse, and in contact with his fellows always endeavored to brighten their lives. He was a strong believer in the doctrine of the international sunshine society—

How much joy and comfort we can all bestow  
If we scatter sunshine everywhere we go—

and he tried faithfully to practice that beautiful philosophy. A bright, cheery word, a kindly smile, and a warm handshake were his greetings, and it made one feel good to be with him. Although in bad health for several years prior to his death and a constant sufferer, his good



humor was unfailing, and he rarely complained or intruded his feelings on others.

As before stated, the judge seldom took an active part in the debates on the floor of the House, but he was very attentive to committee work, and tireless whenever a measure was presented to his own great Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, or any other committee that related in the slightest degree to Louisiana. He neglected no detail, and his personal influence with his colleagues was so remarkable that if the measure advocated by him had reasonable merit it was almost sure to win. His career illustrates in a striking manner the fact that a Member can become most influential and useful as a legislator and yet make very few speeches in the House.

Mr. Speaker, it is a mournful pleasure to lay these few flowers on the grave of your friend and mine. Long may his memory be green and sweet to those of us who knew and loved him in these Halls, and honored by the State and Nation he served so well.



ADDRESS OF MR. ADAMSON, OF GEORGIA

MR. SPEAKER: One of the most popular maxims in all the books is the injunction to "Speak nothing but good concerning the dead." In case of our deceased friend, Hon. ROBERT C. DAVEY, it is not difficult to comply with that rule. It is true there is sometimes a tendency to indulge in extravagant laudation of the departed. It is fortunate that when death closes the lips and eyes and stills the heart and arm of a man, all criticism, hatred, and revenge are disarmed, and humanity is willing to remember no demerits, but cherish and even magnify the good only. That tendency may be due to the conscious weakness common to our natures. Realizing our own frailty and knowing that sooner or later our own hearts must cease to pulsate and our own lips grow dumb, anticipating something of our own lot with involuntary dread for the untried terrors of death's lone passage, we instinctively feel for the dead the same consideration which we hope for our own memories from the attention of our survivors. In the case, however, of our lamented comrade it was not necessary to wait for death to disarm malice nor stifle criticism. There was in his life and character enough good for a long speech without hunting for faults, which were exceedingly few, if any existed. Every person who knew him in life loved him. I venture the opinion that he never intentionally harmed a human being; that he was intuitively considerate of his fellow-man, because he loved his fellow-man. It was delightful to acknowledge



his merits while he lived, and present him with an occasional nosegay while life yet permitted him to enjoy its perfume, without awaiting his death to shower his bier with an avalanche of flowers, or pronounce to other ears praises for virtues, admiration of which we had gladly accorded him in life.

For almost 12 years I sat by him in the great Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and worked with him in the House of Representatives. While in the minority during his service in Congress, and therefore less able to control the character of constructive legislation, he was, nevertheless, always diligent and prompt in the most intelligent attention to his public duties. He actively participated in much important legislation. For many years the ranking member of the minority on the committee, he was held in respect and confidence at our end of the table, while the majority welcomed expression of his views and treated them and him with profound consideration, often accepting his suggestions and always anxious to defer to him and oblige him in any matter personal or local, while ready to regard his opinions on all general and public questions. During the 12 years of my intimate association with him I have no recollection of a duty he failed to perform nor an unkind word or act to any fellow-Member, nor of any failure to help, oblige, and please at every opportunity.

If "by their fruits ye shall know them," these reflections convince me that he was a good man, for "a good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." He loved his country and he loved his home State and splendid native city by the Father of Waters, to the beauty, advancement, and prosperity of which he contributed so much. Many are the marks of his industry, wisdom, and devotion, conspicuous throughout all her



borders in improvements for the convenience and happiness of her people. But he loved our great Republic, and if he appeared to love his own city and State more than other parts of our common country, it was more apparent than real and due to his active devotion to the true principle of our Government—that its success depends on individuals and communities locally doing their duty at home.

If every individual and every community should conform to that rule of action, all individuals and all communities would be good. The whole country would be good, and the Republic, justifying the theory and expectations of its founders, would live forever in usefulness and glory; but the Republic that he loved was not a perverted republic, for which some centralists strive, but a union of sovereign, indestructible States looking after all domestic questions and conditions, such as labor, education, the domestic relations, preservation of order, good morals, encouragement of industry, and the protection of the people in the pursuit of happiness and the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, with a general government exercising its proper constitutional delegated functions to exemplify and perpetuate an indissoluble union for the general good, doing the things more convenient and economical for it to do than for each State to do for herself or for her sister States; stronger than any or all together in its legitimate sphere, because calling into exercise the combined forces of all, and using all its powers of statecraft and diplomacy, yea, making war, if necessary, for the protection of our people and States in the exercise of their rights under a republican form of government. Instead of discouraging the exercise of local self-government, it should, if necessary, fight any earthly power which might take umbrage at the proper exercise, by the people or the States, of the right of local self-government—the corner stone of our system, the



essence of our liberty, the very thing it was intended for the Federal Government to defend and protect at all hazards against all objectors.

Of his domestic life I will leave others to speak, contenting myself with the satisfaction that, being a true and noble husband, he was also a wise, tender, and provident father, loved and honored in his home by a good wife, who preceded him to glory, and by lovely children, who, well stationed in life and society, proudly realize in their bereavement that "a good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children." They knew and rejoiced during his life that "the just man walketh in his integrity" and in his good name among men, and in their fond recollection of his benign life and example, shedding benefactions and glowing with benediction, they feel that "his children are blessed after him." In truth and in fact BOB DAVEY was a man. I will not say that "his like we shall not soon see again," but rather express with joy the opinion that there are many of his kind.

If "an honest man is the noblest work of God," he lived and died far in the front rank among those images of his Maker who are nearest like unto God, and in his daily walk and godly conversation exemplified the noble character which we are taught to hope and believe is best prepared to be received with welcome plaudits and forever glorified in the bosom of his everlasting Father.



#### ADDRESS OF MR. SULZER, OF NEW YORK

MR. SPEAKER: Judge DAVEY and I were sincere friends for many years. No one in this House thought more of him. No one liked him better; no one had a greater admiration for his abilities; and no one in Congress or out of Congress had a higher appreciation than I of his good qualities of head and heart. To-day I come to place on record my tribute of affection to his memory. I knew him well as a Member of this House, and in a social way we were intimately acquainted. He was a man of noble character, sincere in purpose, of high ideals, with a genial, sunshiny disposition, and an attractive personality. He was a true friend in the best sense of the word, and those friends he had, and their adoption tried, he held them with ties of affection stronger than ropes of steel.

ROBERT C. DAVEY was a successful man, and had a most eventful public career. He was born in New Orleans on October 22, 1853. He received his early education in the schools of his native city; entered St. Vincent's College, Missouri, in 1869, and graduated with high honors in 1871. He was elected a member of the State senate in December, 1879; reelected in April, 1884; and again elected in April, 1892.

During the sessions of 1884 and 1886 he was president pro tempore of the senate. He was elected judge of the first recorder's court in November, 1880; reelected in November, 1882; again in April, 1884, and served until May, 1888. He was defeated for mayor of the city of New



Orleans in April, 1888. He was elected to and served in the Fifty-third Congress, but positively declined a renomination for the Fifty-fourth Congress. He was elected to and served with distinction in the Fifty-fifth, Fifty-sixth, Fifty-seventh, Fifty-eighth, Fifty-ninth, Sixtieth, and Sixty-first Congresses. He died in the prime of life, in the zenith of his career, at the time of his greatest usefulness, at the summit of his fame, loved and respected, and mourned by all who knew him.

The untimely death of Congressman DAVEY was a great shock to the Members of Congress and to his many friends throughout the country. We will miss him more and more as the years come and go. He occupied a place in our affections which can not be filled. We shall not look upon his like again. We sit in silent sadness with those who loved him; we grieve with those who were near and dear to him; and to all his relatives we extend our sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

The people knew DAVEY; they trusted him; they kept him in official position; they knew his worth; they knew he was a faithful public servant. He did much to improve his native city, much for the progress of his State, and much for the greatness of his country. His early demise was a national loss, and those here who knew him best fully realize this, and hence feel most keenly his unfortunate death.

He was the soul of honor; he loved the truth; his word was his bond; he spared no effort to serve a friend; he never forgot; he was no ingrate; he was an industrious man, a worker for the people, a doer of good in the vineyard of humanity, an energetic, public-spirited citizen, who did things for the advancement of civilization; he was broad minded, liberal in his views, charitable to a fault, a gentleman of the old school; he was a Democrat through and through, who believed in the great funda-



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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mental principles of the author of the Declaration of Independence and struggled all his life for their exemplification.

Such a man was Congressman ROBERT C. DAVEY, and such a man is not often born nor soon forgotten. He is gone to the undiscovered country, whence all must shortly journey, never to return, but he will live in his works for man and in the affectionate memory of those who loved him. A grateful country will never forget his patriotic and self-sacrificing services, and his myriad friends throughout the land, ever remembering his kind words, his good counsel, and his noble deeds, will always keep his memory green.

Green be the turf above thee,  
Friend of my better days;  
None knew thee but to love thee,  
None named thee but to praise.



ADDRESS OF MR. TOWNSEND, OF MICHIGAN

Mr. SPEAKER: I am greatly impressed with the difference between the scene on this floor now and that which we witnessed here a few short hours ago. Yesterday this Chamber was packed with an eager throng, drawn hither by the hope that sensationalism would be rife and that possibly bitter and cruel words would be uttered, resulting in action harmful to the feelings and reputations of men. Is it too much to say that the crowd was actuated by morbid curiosity and a desire to gratify the baser sentiments of our natures? To-day the Chamber contains only those who, out of love for him whose memory we commemorate at this time, have felt like taking advantage of this most proper occasion to bring a few flowers of esteem and regard to place upon the bier of one who recently moved among us. Why should there be such a difference? This Hall is dedicated to the cause of government, and government is ostensibly for the good of men. To-day we eulogize a man who lived and wrought in the cause of such a government, and, judged by the standard of uprightness, fidelity, and integrity, he was a good man and a demonstration of worthy citizenship under popular government.

I would not commend mourning weeds as perpetual raiment; neither would I silence one ripple of laughter, one song of pleasure. I would not destroy a flower or darken a sunbeam, but I would, if I could, unstop deaf ears and open blind eyes to the real things of worth and beauty.



As we stand at the bier of the departed our better natures take control and life appears from a different perspective. As legislators we could, with profit, attend every meeting of this kind, as they are the Mount Pisgahs from whose summits we can see real life and can discriminate between wicked selfishness and highest duty.

We do well to honor the lives and memories of men who have done well. By doing this we strengthen ourselves in well-doing and become better men.

Here we speak but the good, and thus again is the occasion differentiated from yesterday. The press, in its anxiety to sell its publications, prints under sensational headings the faults, mistakes, and foibles of men and gives them widest circulation. The good too frequently goes unwritten and unsung.

To-day we speak but good, and good is and must be the redeemer of the world.

Mr. Speaker, I came here with little preparation, but I am persuaded that this is not a time for oratory, and especially on this particular occasion, for he whose life and work we now commemorate was a plain and modest man, not given either to the spectacular or to the unreal. I rise, however, to speak the words of sincere friendship for the late ROBERT C. DAVEY which come unbidden to my lips.

When I entered Congress and was assigned to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, Mr. DAVEY was a member of it and one of the first with whom I became acquainted. He had a strong face, an attractive personality, even to the stranger, and the impressions thus obtained at the beginning were strengthened by closer acquaintance, and I came to ratify those first impressions of him. I knew from the beginning that he was not a well man, and I have wondered if it is not in the Divine economy so ordained that when the physical



is afflicted the spiritual becomes stronger. I believe, sir, that no colleague of his can either on a funeral occasion, when we are inclined to speak only well of the departed, or on any other say that Judge DAVEY was not a man actuated by the loftiest and best feelings of mankind. His patience with and tolerance of the faults and foibles of others were, it seemed to me, greater than those of his physically stronger colleagues. I knew him when personal bereavement came to him. He was still the strong, steady man, facing the inevitable, meeting it manfully and courageously.

I was with him on the trip to Panama in November, 1904. He was sick on that voyage, but he did not complain. I remember talking with him many times, because it was not an altogether pleasant voyage for me physically. There was thus a bond of sympathy between us. We visited much on that trip.

It is, I think, in these moments, when you meet men uninfluenced by passion and prejudice, when you meet as man to man, that you understand your fellows better than on any other occasion. So I think I came to know Judge DAVEY well. I have heard what his religious sect was. I know that he was a deeply religious man according to the standard of doing unto others as you would be done by. He knew that the veil was soon to be lifted, that it could not remain down long, and he contemplated the fact with complacency. I remember one day we were talking about the aims and ambitions of men. How they all dwarf into insignificance when we are face to face with the great fact which in the end comes to all—the dissolution of man! He told me that he was ready for the call when he should be summoned. I said to him that his suggestions of meeting everything manfully and bravely and without complaint reminded me of a little poem, anonymous, which I had read, and while we sat



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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there on the deck I recited to him its words, which I think expressed his faith, as they certainly do mine:

Whichever way the wind doth blow,  
Some heart is glad to have it so.  
Then, blow it east or blow it west,  
The wind that blows, that wind is best.  
My little bark sails not alone.  
A thousand boats from every zone  
Are out upon a thousand seas,  
And what to me were favoring breeze  
Might dash another with the shock  
Of ruin on the hidden rock.  
And so I do not dare to pray  
For winds to waft me on my way,  
But leave it to the higher will  
To stay or speed me, trusting still  
That all is well, and sure that He  
Who launched my bark will sail with me  
Through storm and calm and will not fail,  
Whatever breezes may prevail,  
To bring me every danger past  
Within His sheltering haven at last.

He has brought Judge DAVEY there. There is no doubt about it. I do not know whether he is cognizant of what is going on here to-day or not. If he is, it will not be the words which we may utter, but the sincerity which lies behind them that he will recognize.

Mr. Speaker, in this humble way, without attempting to exaggerate, because it is folly to exaggerate, I pay my little tribute of respect. Congressman DAVEY was an inspiration to his colleagues on the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. He never played a part. He appeared to be and was the soul of honor. Therefore we mourn his loss; we recognize that the inevitable has come to him, as it must come to all of us; but he taught valuable lessons in modesty, integrity, and fidelity, and we who are permitted just a little while longer to remain on this field of action will, I believe, do our work better for having met and associated with ROBERT C. DAVEY.



#### ADDRESS OF MR. PUJO, OF LOUISIANA

MR. SPEAKER: In the last analysis, when casting up the final account of a man's life, the real question is, What dominant traits of character, what virtues, emphasized his efforts in this great field of human endeavor? I will not attempt to paint the lily or add perfume to the violet by entering into an eulogistic discussion of the life efforts, worth, and character of my friend, Judge DAVEY. These have been referred to and mentioned in eloquent, touching, and earnest terms by my colleagues who preceded me.

I feel at great disadvantage, and in a way I feel almost reluctant to try to express some of the thoughts that rush through my mind when the memory of my friend and the friend of all of us is brought back so vividly.

Judge DAVEY served in public positions for thirty years, and when he died no one in this wide world could point the finger of suspicion at him, either in his public or private life. He could not truthfully have been charged with having an itching palm. The salaries that came to him in his public positions were frequently spent almost before they were payable. He never knew what it was to refuse an application or a request for aid. In fact, to my personal knowledge, he was frequently imposed upon by helping those who never intended to recoup, or to prevent him from sustaining loss. When we turn our minds back to the final ceremonies in New Orleans, the scene is vivid. The elite of that magnificent city crowded around his bier. People representing every walk and avocation of life were represented. The poor were there in large numbers; and in fact one realized when looking into the faces of those



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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who were present that he typified to them Christian charity in its broadest sense.

Mr. Speaker, while I did not live in the immediate vicinity of the home of Judge DAVEY, it was my good fortune to have been acquainted with him for almost a quarter of a century. During that whole time and during my service in Congress I always found him courteous, and willing and able to help anyone who made application for assistance. In fact—and I say this without any desire to create invidious distinction—at the time Judge DAVEY departed this life he was unquestionably the most influential man in the Louisiana delegation, and wielded as much influence in this body as any Member of any other delegation on the minority side.

This was not due to the fact that he was noted in forensic effort. It was due to his noble traits of character, to the manner in which he discharged his public duties, to his integrity, and to his unfailing willingness to help and cooperate with his colleagues in bringing about that which was best in the way of legislation.

In the death of Judge DAVEY the people of Louisiana lost one of their most distinguished citizens, a man who brought great credit and material benefit to his district and to his State; his children, an indulgent and affectionate parent; and his friends, one to whom they could go when they were “down and out.”

Mr. Speaker, when my mind reverts to the sterling qualities of our lamented friend, I always link his memory with that of the type of humanity of which the poet sings so sweetly:

Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)  
Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,  
And saw within the moonlight of his room,  
Making it rich and like a lily in bloom,



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ADDRESS OF MR. PUJO, OF LOUISIANA

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An angel writing in a book of gold.  
Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,  
And to the presence in the room he said,  
"What writest thou?" The vision raised its head,  
And, with a look made all of sweet accord,  
Answered, "The names of those who love the Lord."  
"And is mine one?" said Abou. "Nay, not so,"  
Replied the angel. Abou spoke more low,  
But cheerily still, and said: "I pray thee, then,  
Write me as one who loves his fellow-men."  
The angel wrote and vanished. The next night  
It came again with a great wakening light,  
And showed the names whom love of God had blessed,  
And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.



ADDRESS OF MR. WATKINS, OF LOUISIANA

Mr. SPEAKER: It is in response to the call of a most solemn duty that I pay tribute to the memory of my deceased colleague and friend, Judge ROBERT CHARLES DAVEY.

He served four years in the State senate of Louisiana with my father, and there was a close attachment between them, and I had learned to respect Judge DAVEY before I became intimately acquainted with him here.

Prior to his election to Congress he had served three terms in the State senate, being president pro tempore, and presiding in the absence of the lieutenant governor during four years of this time.

His services as judge of the recorder's court in the city of New Orleans from November, 1880, to May, 1888, enabled him to gain an extensive knowledge of men and to become acquainted with human nature. His public services in the State and here at Washington caused him to be generally known, and while he was no stranger to me, it was not until I began my term of service here and took my seat by the side of him, in December, 1905, that our acquaintance ripened into very close friendship.

In the assignment of seats in the House of Representatives in December, 1905, I was assigned a seat between Gen. Adolph Meyer, who sat on my right, and Judge DAVEY, who sat on my left. During each session of Congress for two years we were thus closely associated. All three of us had frequent occasion to express our views



to each other on social, political, and moral questions. While we were of the same political faith, we all differed in religious belief; but there was never the least friction in our discussions. We each accorded to the other honesty of purpose in his expressions of belief, and our discussions caused each of us to have the highest regard for the sincerity of the other.

Judge DAVEY was a devout Catholic, true to his religious belief, and consecrated in his observance of all the requirements of his church.

No one could know him without loving and respecting him. He was always gracious and accommodating. His long term of service as a Member of the House of Representatives had caused him to become acquainted with the Members of the House and the measures presented, and he was ready at all times to assist a new Member in getting measures passed which were worthy.

We understand that very little effective work is done here by speechmaking, but that the most effective work is done before the committees before the bill is reported to the House of Representatives for passage, and that a friendly acquaintance with the individual Members of the House who go to make up the committees is of great assistance to a Member in getting his measures through.

Judge DAVEY had served on the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce for many years. It was before this committee I had to go to get a bridge bill through. Congress was sitting its last day for the session. The committee had adjourned for the session when I received a telegram urging me to get a bridge bill through. I filed it at once and requested the minority leader to help me get it through. He said it was impossible. I appealed to Judge DAVEY. He went to see each member of the committee in person, and through their friendship for him they reassembled, reported the bill,



and during that legislative day it passed the House and Senate and became a law.

This is only one instance of the many which go to show his kindness and the consideration in which he was held by his fellow-members.

During his 14 years of service in the House of Representatives he had as his colleagues some of the most able and influential statesmen who have ever served in our National Assembly. Some of them have gone out of the House of Representatives to become governors, some have gone to the United States Senate, and many remain in the House.

It is a notable fact that very few Members of Congress accomplish much until they have served a number of years. The complications and intricacies of governmental affairs are so great, the interests so vast, and the departmental work so voluminous that it takes years of toil and study to master it. Some sections seem to understand and appreciate this fact, for we see the present Speaker, Mr. Cannon, serving for 18 terms, or 36 years; Mr. Bingham, 32 years; Mr. Payne, 26 years; Mr. Dalzell, 24 years; Messrs. Hull of Iowa, Jones, and Livingston, 20 years; 8 Members serving 18 years; 17 Members serving 16 years; 36 Members serving 14 years, during the time which Judge DAVEY served. Judge DAVEY would have been serving to-day if he had lived, as his people had learned to prize his services and to know his real worth.

Judge DAVEY had no fear of death. He knew for months that he was afflicted with a fatal malady, but he was as complacent in discussing it as he was in talking about the everyday affairs of life. He was always of a jovial disposition, but as solid as adamant in the discharge of his duty. He made his imprint on legislation, and some of our most important laws are due largely to his originality and his untiring efforts. The railroad rate



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ADDRESS OF MR. WATKINS, OF LOUISIANA

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bill, the national quarantine law, and many others might be cited as examples. He made no pretense to oratory, but he was a forceful speaker and carried the conviction of his earnestness with his plain and simple statement of facts.

Thus is summed up the narrative of the man as we knew him, with no laudation or fulsome flattery, but a truthful tribute to him whom we loved.



ADDRESS OF MR. ESTOPINAL, OF LOUISIANA

Mr. SPEAKER: ROBERT CHARLES DAVEY died in New Orleans December 26, 1908. He served his State earnestly, ably, and conscientiously in the Fifty-third, Fifty-fifth, Fifty-sixth, Fifty-seventh, Fifty-eighth, Fifty-ninth, and Sixtieth Congresses, and was a Member-elect to the present Congress. Of his services in this House, save to say that he had the full confidence of his constituents and of the entire State in his ability, resourcefulness, and fidelity to duty, I shall not speak. That I will leave to his colleagues and the Members on both sides of this Chamber who served with him on committees and were otherwise brought into intimate relations with him. To those generally who were thrown in contact with him, more or less, in legislative and political matters, he was known as Judge DAVEY; but to those of us who knew him long and intimately and loved him as a brother, he was always "BOB" DAVEY. He was a forceful man, a born fighter, yet he never held rancor in his heart toward any man. Political opponents of to-day were his personal friends always, and perhaps political allies of to-morrow, so great was his capacity to envelop in personal friendship, from the bigness of his heart, both the political allies and political opponents.

Factional strife within the party to which we both belonged waged fiercely at times. BOB DAVEY was a leading figure in all of them, commanding his forces always with success and battling with great earnestness and vigor



for his side and his friends; yet never criticism, never disparagement, never reproach, never hostility for the other side against which he was fighting with such knightly intent.

As an instance of this rare gift of leading in opposition and yet retaining the love and affection of his opponent, I will mention the political fight of 1888, in which BOB DAVEY, showing the strongest qualities of leadership and winning out in his ward by a vote of 5 to 1, supported Gen. Francis T. Nichols for governor against the then governor, and now senior Senator from our State, Samuel Douglas McEnery. Governor McEnery was defeated, largely the result of BOB DAVEY's splendid leadership, and the former governor, Nichols, succeeded him in the gubernatorial chair. Now, mark the result: In an obituary article in the New Orleans Picayune, our distinguished senior Senator [Mr. McEnery] is quoted as follows:

Judge DAVEY was a forceful and popular speaker, as I had occasion to observe while campaigning with him. I told him this and repeatedly urged him to speak oftener and let his remarks appear in print. But, with his well-known modesty, he merely smiled and declined to take the platform.

But here is the significant utterance to which I wish to call attention, which shows the singular and remarkable characteristic that I mentioned of retaining friendship while being a leader in opposition. Senator McEnery further says (I quote from the same paper):

BOB DAVEY has been my candidate for governor for many years. Whenever anyone has asked me for my support for this office I have given it with this reservation: "If BOB DAVEY is not a candidate," hoping that some day he could be induced to run. He would have made an able and honest governor, and I would have liked to have seen him in that office.



Volumes that I might utter, commendatory and laudatory, could not bring out with more vivid distinctness the qualities of greatness and goodness of that remarkable man more than this instance; and it is no less a tribute to the broadness and greatness of our senior Senator.

As confirming our senior Senator's opinion of BOB DAVEY's ability as an eloquent and forceful speaker, and as an evidence of the grandeur of his character and of his broad charity, I will insert in my remarks an extract from a speech he made on one occasion, which more awakened the admiration and more touched the feelings of our people than perhaps any speech ever delivered in Louisiana.

It was in one of those factional fights for the control of the city of New Orleans. A movement, supported by some of our best citizens and ablest men, was organized under the name of "Home Rulers," and they vigorously, though unsuccessfully, fought the regular Democrats. In almost the closing days of the campaign Judge DAVEY gave utterance to these remarkable sentiments:

This campaign was commenced by the opposition talking of "Winchesters and shotguns." I desire to say to you that there is no office in the gift of the people that is worth one drop of human blood. I will go further and say that all the offices, from President down to the smallest in the gift of the people, are, collectively, not worth one drop of human blood.

That statement is the measure of the great heart of the man.

Replying to the charge that the regulars would commit frauds at the polls, he said:

They need have no fear, nor need they to endeavor to arouse the passions of the people by unfounded charges, that we intend to defraud them at the polls. As God is my judge, fellow citizens, I hope that if we have not the votes on November 8 our ticket will be defeated.



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ADDRESS OF MR. ESTOPINAL, OF LOUISIANA

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That statement is the measure of the honesty of the man.

BOB DAVEY was born October 22, 1853, in the city which so signally honored him. After attending school in New Orleans and attaining a high-school education, he went, in 1869, to St. Vincent's College, Cape Girardeau, Mo., where he completed a two-years' finishing course in 1871. His purpose was to enter business life in our city, which he did after graduating. But however much this business life was to his taste, he was not allowed to long pursue it, for, in a distracted condition of political affairs in his ward, he was called to active leadership and elected a member of the Democratic State executive committee. In 1879, at the age of 26 years, he was elected to the State senate and continued in that body for eight years, during four of which he was its president pro tempore. He was also during nearly that entire term judge of the first recorder's court of New Orleans, a position not legally incompatible with his legislative position. In 1888 he was nominated for mayor of New Orleans by the regular Democratic organization; but there have been occasions when the regular ticket was defeated, and even Judge DAVEY, with his great personal popularity, could not keep the pendulum from swinging against the regulars at that election, and he was defeated. That was the first and only defeat of his career. Following his defeat for mayor, he was nominated and elected to the Fifty-third Congress from the second Louisiana district.

Wishing to again enter business, which seems to have been his life's purpose and desire, he declined reelection to the Fifty-fourth Congress. But his people would not permit him to remain out of public life, for he was nominated unanimously and elected, practically without opposition, to the Fifty-fifth Congress, served continuously from that time, and was elected, less than two months



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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before his death, as a Member of this Congress, in which he was destined never to serve. Such is, briefly, the record of a life of political activity in which political office was thrust upon him.

I have known BOB DAVEY from his very early manhood, and I served with him in the State senate. While we have differed in our views of State politics and have been on different sides in the warm political contests of the times, our personal friendship was never interrupted in the slightest degree, and I can speak with perhaps more depth of feeling of his loyal greatness than almost any man in the State. His word was ever accepted as a bond, and he was one man of whom it can be said that he never made a promise he could not fulfill, never made one that he did not keep, and that once his friend it was friendship to the end. He never broke a friendship himself, and the charm of his personality and the greatness of his heart were such that he could never lose a friend that he had once drawn to him.

At no time in his career was there ever serious danger of defeat in his ward, and at no time in his congressional service was there ever hint of opposition to him. It is a great tribute to his personal popularity that he should be so universally recognized as a leader with such constant and unchanging friendships which he so steadfastly held.

As a fitting finis to this humble tribute I am paying to the virtues of my departed friend, I shall, if there be no objection, add some of the obituary comments of the daily press of my city on his life, services, and characteristics.

[Editorial from the New Orleans Times-Democrat.]

Devoid of oratorical powers, Mr. DAVEY proved himself none the less a useful Representative after the modern ideas of Congressmen. His long term, his bonhomie, won him friends on both sides of Congress. A man free from bitterness and extreme partisanship, he had probably as many friends on the Republican



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ADDRESS OF MR. ESTOPINAL, OF LOUISIANA

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side of the House as any Democrat in Washington, and was therefore able to get consideration and attention for the measures he recommended, which Members of far greater national prominence never have been able to accomplish.

All requests received the promptest and most careful consideration, and whatever it was possible for him to do for the people of his district he did willingly and thoroughly. And this was equally true of the city of New Orleans, for its commercial, industrial, and other organizations could always feel sure that Congressman DAVEY would act for them, on the floor of the House or before any of the general departments, whenever asked to do so.

[Biographical, from the New Orleans Times-Democrat.]

He labored hard and faithfully in the interests of New Orleans and the district, and always with telling effect. He was a member of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. He was a man of strong character, honest, and sincere, and his friends were only limited by the number of his acquaintances.

[Editorial from the New Orleans Picayune.]

During the last 10 years of Judge DAVEY'S life he had represented the second Louisiana district in the House of Representatives, and in the National Capital had soon become as generally known and as universally liked as he had been at home. His activities in Congress were of a strictly practical kind. He made no effort to shine as a speaker or to become identified with sensational measures. He devoted himself assiduously to committee work and to safeguarding and looking after the interests of his constituents and of the city and State of his birth and residence. No matter who went to Washington with business of personal or private character with the Government, Judge DAVEY made it his duty to see that their mission was helped in every way in his power. It was this obliging spirit and his constant devotion to duty that made Judge DAVEY a valuable Congressman, and which is certain to make it exceedingly difficult to make good his loss.

[Biographical, from the New Orleans Picayune.]

However much success Congressman DAVEY had obtained in the National Congress, yet it was here at home and in his own ward that he was best known, and where the people loved him



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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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for the many admirable and affectionate traits which he possessed. He was a great benefactor. Judge DAVEY never kept money. No one was ever turned from him hungry or in need. He was a generous benefactor to the orphans, especially the New Orleans Female Orphan Asylum, to which institution he gave an annual outing on the river to some picnic grounds where the little tots enjoyed the fresh air and a fine spread. During the fever of 1905 Judge DAVEY was at the head of the Second Ward Sanitation Association, and all during that siege he was never known to fail to be present at the noon meetings. He was instrumental in collecting several thousand dollars for the sanitation of his ward.

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Many of his efforts and successes in Congress will live as everlasting monuments to his memory. The new million-dollar post office, for which he worked day and night, will ever testify to his energies in Washington in behalf of his own people.

[Editorial from the New Orleans States.]

Judge DAVEY received a collegiate education as a youth, and from his young manhood to the day of his death he was trusted and honored by his people in high positions, officially and otherwise. He was, while yet a young man, honored by the senate of Louisiana by being chosen as president of that body. He was nominated by his party for mayor of New Orleans and was defeated for that position only because of the upheaval which took place in that campaign and the great personal popularity of his opponent, the late Mayor Shakespeare.

Then he went to Congress, and he served his people so disinterestedly and so well that opposition to him became futile and the place was repeatedly accorded to him practically by acclamation. Judge DAVEY was a man of genial temperament, kind-hearted, benevolent, a friend of the poor, and an idol among the masses of his constituents. He never courted the limelight, but was quiet, unobtrusive, most companionable, and always loyal to his friends. During his long term of service he has taken a prominent, though not noisy, part in the work of public legislation, and his personal popularity among the influential men of both parties enabled him to accomplish much for his district that would have failed under more brilliant but less tactful leadership.



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## ADDRESS OF MR. ESTOPINAL, OF LOUISIANA

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He was one of those quiet, companionable men whom one occasionally meets whose work is accomplished without blare of trumpet or flashing of red fire, and who yet stand the test of merit and efficiency. Among the poor and humble, who knew him and loved him, among the rich and great, who respected and honored him, among the men of his district of all shades of political thought, the death of Judge DAVEY will come as a personal bereavement. The State has lost a valuable and successful Representative in Congress and his constituents an official upon whom they knew they could depend under all circumstances.

[Biographical, from the New Orleans States.]

Judge DAVEY attained a wide influence at Washington and bore intimate personal relations with many of the leaders on both sides. He was a conspicuous member of the important Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, and, while seldom taking part in the debates on the floor, was an indefatigable worker in the departments and the committee room, and had rendered invaluable service not only to his own district, but to the whole city.

Personally, Judge DAVEY was a man of most likable qualities. He was genial, warm-hearted, and sympathetic, an entertaining conversationalist, and won lifelong friends in whatever sphere he entered. He was democratic in his tastes, thoroughly approachable, and his death will be deeply mourned by all classes of the community.

Of splendid physique, with an endurance that seemed to have no limit, it is sad, indeed, that disease should have laid hold of him and taken him from us at such an early age, and at a period of life when his powers for usefulness to his people had scarcely reached their meridian. To those of us who knew him so well and so long, the thought of him will always be a living, breathing, ever-enduring pleasure.



#### ADDRESS OF MR. BROUSSARD, OF LOUISIANA

Mr. SPEAKER: Love of him in life, and fond remembrance, no less than time-honored custom, bring us to this historic Hall to pay a last tribute to the memory of ROBERT C. DAVEY.

Of this Congress he was a Member-elect; but he had not concluded his duties as a Member of the previous Congress when death claimed him. At the Hotel Dieu, in New Orleans, his native city, the morning after Christmas, 1908, he passed forever from our midst.

ROBERT CHARLES DAVEY was born October 22, 1853. During his early boyhood he attended the public schools and the Christian Brothers' School, in New Orleans; and, subsequently, in 1869, matriculated at St. Vincent College, Cape Girardeau, Mo., and from that institution he was graduated in 1871.

His education completed, he returned to New Orleans, where, for a while, he contemplated studying law, but later decided to pursue a commercial life. He obtained employment in a wholesale house, and, by his close application to business, a pleasing address, and his sturdy honesty and integrity, he soon rose in the esteem of not only his associates, but of his employers; consequently, his promotions were frequent and numerous.

The life suited him, and with it he was pleased; but for him there were other things in store.



BOB DAVEY was then a member of the White League. As such he took an active part in quelling the disturbances under which Louisiana suffered in reconstruction times, and participated in the battle of the 14th of September, 1874, thereby helping the people of his native State to resume control of its affairs.

He was a public-spirited young man and had early identified himself with the Democratic Party, being a member of the organization of that party in his native ward. In 1878 the leaders of that organization became hopelessly divided. The dissatisfaction emanating from this chaotic condition of affairs made it an utter impossibility to restore order; hence, a new leader was eagerly sought for.

To his surprise, BOB DAVEY was asked, as the one man who could harmonize the situation, to step into the breach and assume the leadership. Realizing the obligations and responsibilities that would be incumbent upon him, he hesitated, as he feared it would interfere with his business occupation; but when it was shown that the request came to him as a patriotic duty his big heart could not refuse. He acceded to their request and succeeded in harmonizing the differences.

He was elected a member of the Democratic State central committee, and of that committee he remained a member until his death. During his long membership in that body there continued in the ward the harmony which, nearly 30 years before, he had instilled among his friends; but in commercial pursuits, which he at first intended to follow, his activities soon ceased. In the same year he was tendered the Democratic nomination to the State Legislature, but not having abandoned the hope of continuing the business career that he had early decided for himself, he declined the honor that was offered him.



In the following year, however—1879—he was elected to the State senate, and to this body he was reelected several times, serving continuously until 1892, when he resigned his seat to accept a nomination to the Fifty-third Congress, to which body he was elected.

While in the State senate he was elected president pro tempore of that branch of the legislature, and before the expiration of his term of service in that body his people honored him by his election as one of the recorders of New Orleans. As such he served for eight years, and until 1888, when he was nominated by the Democrats for mayor of the city of New Orleans, in which election he was defeated.

His term of office in the Fifty-third Congress brought him to the conclusion that he did not like the service here. In 1894, though, upon his return home, he was tendered a renomination, but as he was desirous to resume his business career he declined. So friendly was the convention to him that, through insistence, he himself placed in nomination Charles F. Buck, who was elected as his successor.

In 1896 the convention met and again nominated DAVEY to Congress. He was elected to the Fifty-fifth Congress and to every subsequent Congress up to and including the present Congress, having at no time in all these years met with any opposition in his own party to his several reelections.

BOB DAVEY thus served on the Democratic State central committee continuously for nearly 30 years; he served as city judge of New Orleans for 8 years; as State senator for 13 years, 4 of which as president pro tempore of that body; and 16 years in this body.

My first acquaintance with DAVEY was in 1892, when I was elected a member of the Democratic State central committee, on which committee I served with him con-



tinuously up to the time of his death. My next and more intimate acquaintance with him was at the time of my first election to Congress, in 1896, and this resulted in elevating my preconception of his kindly character. He was returning to Congress after a two years' absence from service, and he graciously offered me his assistance when he could serve. To me he was very kind, as he was to everybody, indeed.

We took adjoining rooms at the same hotel, and a close and intimate friendship sprang up between us. Thêreafter, and up to the time of his death, we always stopped at the same hotels.

Close association thus for 14 years, almost, has enabled me to judge of the splendid character of BOB DAVEY. Due to that fact, perhaps, no man here is better acquainted with his inestimable qualities than I am. He was the most sympathetic man I have ever known. Every man's suffering, as soon as he learned of it, was his. In the good fortune of others he delighted. Selfishness was alien to his nature. What was his was his only as others needed it not; and I believe I can safely say, without fear of contradiction, that no one, friend or foe, ever requested a favor of BOB DAVEY, if within his power, that he did not grant it; that no one, acquaintance or stranger, ever asked help of BOB DAVEY in vain. To the extent of his ability he always, at all times, under all circumstances, extended the hand of fellowship to those who were in need of it.

He was of Irish extraction, and, like most men of that race, he had a keenly developed sense of humor. He possessed wit of no mean order, and this he never used to vex or offend, but always to assuage the feelings or elevate the spirit of his friends when downcast or melancholy. Adroit as he was, no friction among his friends ever became serious, because his sense of humor invariably



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## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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came forward to relieve a situation, and soon the humorous side of every controversy was thrust to the front and good feeling at once prevailed. No man, I dare say, ever knew BOB DAVEY but liked him, and that liking always increased as the acquaintance grew older.

In Congress he served well and faithfully, and his activities were of a practical kind. He was assiduous in his committee service and was always conservative in his views; he was ever alert to the interests of his constituency and State; he delighted in serving his people, and no cause of theirs was ever too arduous for him to champion. As a speaker he was not conspicuous; in fact, he did not make a speech during his long service in the House, and he repeatedly said that, no matter how long would be his service in the House, he would never make a set speech. Surely, though, his services were very potent and valuable.

To those of us who participated in the obsequies of our late colleague the editorial remarks of the New Orleans Picayune would be familiar and would describe them best. To those who did not attend they will better describe the real esteem in which BOB DAVEY was held by the people of his native city:

### THE FUNERAL OF CONGRESSMAN DAVEY.

Yesterday the remains of the late Representative ROBERT C. DAVEY were sorrowfully and tenderly consigned to the tomb. The funeral was probably the most remarkable demonstration of popular sorrow that has been witnessed in New Orleans in many a day. There was no idle curiosity and no concourse of people attracted merely by display, but there was a great outpouring of persons from every walk of life and representative of every element in the community to attest their earnest affection and respect for the man who had lived among them all of his life and had won their regard and admiration by his sturdy honesty, goodness of heart, and unswerving devotion to every duty of good citizenship.



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ADDRESS OF MR. BROUSSARD, OF LOUISIANA

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There were present committees representing the Houses of Congress, in one of which Judge DAVEY served for so many years; officials of the State and Federal Governments, as well as the mayor and leading officials of the city and of its various public bodies. There were also in attendance bankers, merchants, workmen—in fact people of every calling and element in the community, all inspired by the same genuine desire to pay a last sad tribute of affection to the man who had been equally a friend to all.

There have been funerals in which military pomp and display have been memorable in the annals of this city, but not in the memory of the present generation, at least, has a prominent citizen been carried to his last resting place with more evidences of the genuine esteem in which he was held during life than were displayed in the obsequies yesterday of ROBERT C. DAVEY. His memory will long remain green among those who knew him.



ADDRESS OF MR. STEVENS, OF MINNESOTA

MR. SPEAKER: It is with a sense of melancholy that one who has known our late colleague, Judge DAVEY, intimately addresses himself, briefly and formally, for the last time, to his life and character. As a member of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce of this House it was my privilege to know him thoroughly for several years, and, with the others of his associates there, we grew to have for him the warmest personal affection. His uniform courtesy to everybody and his loyalty to whomever and whatever had his allegiance won for him the same high place in our regard as it seemed to have won the confidence and esteem of his fellow-citizens of his native city and State. There was nothing subtle or reserved or disingenuous about the treatment by Judge DAVEY of his colleagues, so we learned to expect constant fairness and consideration from him; and never were we disappointed during the years of closest association even under the strain of partisan debate and maneuvers.

Necessarily strong differences of opinion must arise where there is under consideration and preparation great questions involving the welfare of our Nation and people and affecting vitally all sections and factions more or less equally. These times of stress test the real manhood and worth of all public men, and it was at such a time that we appreciated to the utmost the presence of Judge DAVEY among us. With a large experience in public and private affairs, with a shrewd and practical grasp on whatever came before him for consideration, with an honest and



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ADDRESS OF MR. STEVENS, OF MINNESOTA

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sincere desire to learn and do whatever was the best to be done, we leaned on his judgment and welcomed his suggestions. He was without pretense or hypocrisy, never descended to gallery play, so often thought necessary to political success, but he always sought to state his own position and that of his opponents so fairly and justly as to win approval by the merits of his cause rather than through his own connection with it.

Enfeebled by a wasting ailment for some years before his decease, yet this did not deter him from performing his duties fully and zealously and effectively to his country, to his party, and to his constituency. We all admired his brave and suffering soul as he went among us daily with a smile and a jest, when we knew at the time of his physical torture.

He was always considerate toward us who were with him, when most others would have demanded our consideration for himself. We deeply appreciated that unselfishness and magnanimity and were always glad in return to express to him our confidence, good will, and affection.

Such ties as these, such friendship, and such associations overwhelm the many meannesses we meet in daily duties, retain many men in public life, and inspire them to valiant service for their country, when without these virtues among their fellows the flavor and fascination would largely be gone, the charm of public service would be greatly dissipated, and the country would lose the benefit of the patriotic, disinterested, and invaluable labors of many of its most useful servants. We are glad to bear this testimonial to our friends and fellows when we know how truly it is merited and what an inspiration such a life and such qualities are to the rest of us.

The years will go, and sooner or later we all shall go with them, having played our small parts here for a brief



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**MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY**

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season. But those of us who were privileged to know Judge DAVEY well will always hold some fresh green spot in our memory for him and for his association with us.

Blessed be the turf above thee,  
Thou friend of brighter days;  
None knew thee but to love thee;  
None named thee but to praise.

**ADJOURNMENT**

And then, on motion of Mr. Gilmore, and in pursuance of the resolution previously agreed to (at 2 o'clock and 27 minutes p. m.), the House adjourned.

Y. B. DAVEY  
ALBANY, N. Y.



PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE

THURSDAY, *March 31, 1910.*

Prayer by the Chaplain, Rev. Ulysses G. B. Pierce, D. D.

Mr. McENERY. Mr. President, I give notice that on Monday, April 18, 1910, I shall ask the Senate to consider resolutions in commemoration of the life and public services of the Hon. ROBERT C. DAVEY, late a Representative from the State of Louisiana.

APRIL 18, 1910.

Mr. McENERY. Mr. President, I ask the Chair to lay before the Senate the resolutions of the House of Representatives in respect to my late colleague in that body, Hon. ROBERT C. DAVEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Kean in the chair). The Chair lays before the Senate the resolutions indicated by the Senator from Louisiana, which will be read.

The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

*March 20, 1910.*

*Resolved*, That the business of the House be now suspended that opportunity may be given for tributes to the memory of Hon. ROBERT C. DAVEY, late a Member of this House from the State of Louisiana.

*Resolved*, That as a particular mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, and in recognition of his distinguished public career, the House at the conclusion of these exercises shall stand adjourned.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk send a copy of these resolutions to the family of the deceased.



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PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE

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Mr. McENERY. Mr. President, I submit the resolutions I send to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolutions will be read.  
The Secretary read the resolutions, as follows:

*Resolved*, That the Senate expresses its profound sorrow on account of the death of the Hon. ROBERT CHARLES DAVEY, late a Member of the House of Representatives from the State of Louisiana.

*Resolved*, That the business of the Senate be now suspended in order that fitting tributes may be paid his memory.

*Resolved*, That the Secretary communicate a copy of these resolutions to the House of Representatives and to the family of the deceased.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolutions submitted by the Senator from Louisiana.  
The resolutions were unanimously agreed to.



## MEMORIAL ADDRESSES

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### ADDRESS OF MR. MCENERY, OF LOUISIANA

**MR. PRESIDENT:** ROBERT C. DAVEY, late Member of Congress from the second congressional district of Louisiana, died in the city of New Orleans on the 26th day of December, 1908.

I can not say, and I will not say,  
That he is dead—he's just away;  
With a cheery smile and a wave of the hand  
He has wandered into an unknown land,  
And left us dreaming how very fair  
It needs must be, since he lingers there.

He was born in New Orleans October 22, 1853. He was educated in the schools of New Orleans and at St. Vincent College, Cape Girardeau, Mo., from which he was graduated in 1873. Entering into commercial pursuits he displayed aptitude, and had he continued in this occupation success would have been his reward, for diligence and pleasing manners were his, which were sure to attract favorable attention. But he had a fondness for political matters and soon drifted into politics. It was but a short time before he became favorably known throughout the State for his sterling worth, loyalty to his party, and fidelity to his friends. He was at an early period of his career a member of various organizations of his party, from the lowest to the highest, and became conspicuous



for the wisdom he brought to its councils, his sound judgment on all questions, and his common sense and integrity in directing the practical machinery of his party in avoiding unnecessary entanglements and promoting harmony among discordant elements and sending into the field a force of intelligent and energetic workers.

During the tragic period of reconstruction he was an ardent advocate of aggressive action and a member of all organizations to overthrow the alien government which to the people and wealth to the State. In carrying out elected to the State senate in 1879 and reelected in 1884 and 1892. He was president pro tempore of the senate in 1884-1886. He took a leading part in all matters of legislation, and his influence was pronounced in promoting the passage of needed laws and the defeat of useless and harmful legislation.

Gov. Francis T. Nicholls went into the executive office when there was wreck and ruin in all the material interests of the State, following the disastrous control of the State by negroes and unscrupulous whites. By an almost superhuman effort he restored things to normal conditions. By his wise, able, and patriotic efforts he inaugurated that system which in after years brought happiness to the people and wealth to the State. In carrying out the policies of the first white man's government since the war, R. C. DAVEY was distinguished for his ability and his fidelity to the State, and his work in this direction made him more generally known, increasing his popularity and his influence. He was elected judge of the first recorder's court of the city of New Orleans in 1880, and reelected in 1882, and served until 1888. His administration of the office was satisfactory to the people, and his rigid enforcement of the law greatly contributed to the good order of the city. In 1888 he was a candidate for mayor of the city of New Orleans, but was defeated.



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ADDRESS OF MR. McENERY, OF LOUISIANA

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The campaign was one of those which so often occur in municipalities when it is difficult to analyze the motives which control voters, when factional differences ignore party obligations, local interests and prejudices upset all calculations, and worth and party services are subordinated to selfishness. At any rate, this defeat did not detract from his personal popularity and his high standing in his district, for he was soon thereafter elected to the Fifty-third Congress. He was tendered the nomination for the Fifty-fourth, which he declined. He was elected to the Fifty-fifth and each succeeding Congress, including the Sixty-first. When he was elected to the Sixty-first Congress few believed he would be able to take his seat, as he had been in declining health for nearly two years, and when elected he was nearing the end of his useful life. The people of the district were so devoted to him that no question of his health entered into the advisability of his election. During the long period of his illness he fought hard for life, in order to perform his duty, and this he did under the most trying conditions.

In the House he was not a participant in debate, except on rare occasions, but his strong and vigorous common sense and his unerring judgment made him a valued counselor and an active, useful member of committees. His amiability and excellent bearing made friends for him on both sides of the Chamber. His congressional efforts were mainly exerted in promoting the interests of his State and his immediate constituency, but he was not unmindful of his obligations to the entire country, as his votes and services on committees attest.

He was well known and much esteemed in Washington, particularly for his ministrations to those in need of assistance, and his generosity was not limited by the size and contents of his purse. Often he deprived himself



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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to give to others, and too often was his generous nature imposed upon. But this in no way checked his generous impulses, for the next appeal would be met unhesitatingly.

There are many episodes in Judge DAVEY's life which, if known, would, in part, explain the deep affection in which he was held by so many who knew him. An example is recalled in an incident of the Spanish-American War. The First and Second Louisiana Regiments were in camp at Miami, Fla. An epidemic of typhoid fever broke out and a number of young Louisianians gave up their lives to this plague. The officers of both regiments solicited every influence that could be reached in an effort to have the regiments moved out of this stricken spot. Among those, Judge DAVEY was telegraphed. He made no reply, but a day or two after he appeared in Miami from Washington. He remained long enough to advise himself of the true conditions, returned to Washington, and two days after his arrival there the troops were ordered out of Miami. How many lives this saved no one knows, but all who had relatives or friends in those regiments knew to whom the credit for this act was due. This was emphasized at the first reunion of the Second Louisiana Regiment in New Orleans on May 2, 1900, at which were present a number of very prominent men. The toastmaster, who had been an officer in the regiment, lost a brother, another officer, who became ill in service. The feeling with which he introduced Judge DAVEY as the soldiers' friend, and the man who saved the volunteers from Miami, can be more easily imagined than expressed.

The silent toast to the dead then pledged spoke more eloquently than words of the beloved judge, who has gone to join those who have passed into the great beyond, leaving by this simple incident thousands of hearts in friends and relatives of those soldiers to mourn him.



In his political career his sympathies were with the workman and laborer. He was always prompt to aid them in all legislation which their conditions demanded. But none ever heard him utter a word of flattery or any expression, either in public or private, that in the remotest degree approached the appeal of the demagogue. His self-respect and independence forbade it. He had the love, the confidence, and support of all classes of citizens. The rich and the poor attested their affection for him in his last illness and at his funeral. Flowers from the single bud to the elaborate and costly design, tributes of love from all the people, covered the casket and filled the room in which his remains lay in State. The entire city of New Orleans was in mourning, and as the funeral cortege was on its way to the church the streets were lined with sorrowing multitudes, many of whom were in tears in their affection for one whose hand was always ready to give. He had requested that funeral services be held in St. Patrick's Church, the parish in which he was born and in which he had made his first communion and in which he had married Miss Margaret Johnson, who preceded him to the grave in 1906.

In his private and public life he was a model for imitation and an object of unqualified esteem. His manner was perfect and his countenance was one of singular dignity. There was nothing more striking or more effective in his addresses to his constituents than the heartfelt sympathy which he throughout displayed in diction, in tone, in look, and gesture. He alone felt any doubt as to the extent of his powers, and he was so modest that he felt apprehension as to the performance of duty, which to the end he performed faithfully and ably. I frequently went with him over his district and heard many of his speeches. They were logical, direct, positive, sincere, and unostentatious. At one time I heard him deliver a



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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speech which impressed me as being of marked force and ability. I insisted that he should speak oftener and to more distant audiences. He answered with his usual modesty, disclaiming that he had the qualities for a public speaker that I had attributed to him. Had he not been so distrustful of his ability and had he not been content to only serve and gratify his immediate following in the second congressional district he would have been placed high among the popular orators of the State. He was in truth a man of simple and natural manners and one in whom charity and the warmest feelings of human nature were blended in the highest degree, with firmness of purpose and unrelaxed sincerity of principle. None could know BOB DAVEY without learning that he was never carried away with political triumphs; but he valued his own successes and ability only so far as they could conduce to the welfare and happiness of his constituents. His firmness never degenerated into obstinacy. His confidence in those principles he espoused was never mixed with contempt for those which differed. His unbending honesty and straightforward course on all subjects never led him to neglect those courtesies which facilitate personal and political intercourse. He had close friends among those who differed from him who esteemed him for his worth, gentleness, and fidelity.

R. C. DAVEY, known all over the State as "Bob," and I, entered political life at the same period. From that date until his death we were closely and intimately associated. Commencing with friendly intercourse, our association passed beyond mere friendship and ripened into the deepest affection. There was nothing between us to mar our relations. There was between us no concealment of thought or conduct. What concerned the one was of interest to the other. He was noble, he was generous, he was brave, he was true. To me his death was irrepar-



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ADDRESS OF MR. McENERY, OF LOUISIANA

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able, for where shall I again find a friend so devoted and so true!

Gone, gone, gone is the light of a noble eye,  
And the grasp of a genial hand;  
But beyond the night there breaks the light  
On a soul in the better land.

My last parting with and farewell to my devoted friend was in his last moments in a loving embrace—the last communion with a soul pure and white on its way to the “better land.”

Death teaches many heavy lessons hard to bear;  
And most it teaches us what we have lost  
In losing those who loved us.



### ADDRESS OF MR. JONES, OF WASHINGTON

MR. PRESIDENT: The State of Washington is probably interested in more diverse legislation than any other State in the Union. There is no important committee in either branch of Congress that does not deal with legislation touching some interest of ours, and so it was that soon after my entrance into the House of Representatives in the Fifty-sixth Congress I had to appear before the Interstate Commerce Committee of that body, of which ROBERT DAVEY was a member. My visits to the committee were frequent and I soon became acquainted with him. He was always present at the meetings of the committee and took a lively interest in its deliberations. He was kind and courteous to all and always ready to render any assistance possible.

I did not become very intimately acquainted with Mr. DAVEY. He belonged to the minority, I to the majority. He was rather quiet and retiring in disposition, but it soon became apparent to me that he was a most faithful and effective worker. This was his reputation among the Members, and everyone seemed to be glad to favor him at every opportunity. This personal element counts for much in a legislative body. Members of Congress are intensely human and, consistent with their public duty, are much influenced by personal friendships, and that Member who recognizes this fact can do most effective work for his people.

ROBERT DAVEY was a partisan, but he was first a patriot. He believed in Democratic policies and principles be-



cause he believed them to be for the best interests of his country. While tenacious of his own views and opinions he made no factious opposition to the policies of the majority, but gave his best efforts to perfect the same in accordance with what he believed to be right.

He was not a noisy man; he was a doing man. He did not attempt to deceive his constituents with much speaking, but justified their confidence by his works. He was the kind of a man who, in a large legislative body like the House of Representatives, actually accomplishes things for his constituents and leaves his impress upon the measures that are passed for the benefit of the whole people. It is a large body. Its Members are elected directly by the people. Their terms are short. They are swayed largely by the popular clamor. They watch carefully and anxiously the state of the public mind and try to bring their judgment in harmony with it. The majority is held responsible for legislation. The minority point out and magnify mistakes and attempt to show the people that they are in favor of the policies the people want, without making a record that may embarrass them in the future. The minority plays politics to the limit, individually and collectively. So it is that there is much of bombast, much of posing to catch the popular acclaim, much of political maneuvering to gain party advantage. We have heard much condemnation of the rules of that body, much complaint of the difficulty of securing legislation. Trace this complaint to its source and you will find in most cases that the man who is the loudest in complaint has an unjust or unwise measure which he has been unable to pass or else that he does not work for and look after his measures as he should, and tries to hide his own carelessness or negligence by denouncing something or somebody. ROBERT DAVEY was not that kind of a man. He looked after his measures quietly, persistently, and



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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effectively. The rules of the House did not worry him. He not only knew how to work, but he worked. He was careful, persistent, and industrious. Nothing of interest to his constituents was neglected, and the welfare of the people was his highest ambition. He was faithful in all things. Strong and rugged, he was as gentle as a child. Kind and tender, yet firm and unyielding for the right. He was a man—kind, true, tender, gentle, lovable; a statesman—quiet, effective, broadminded, fearless, wise, faithful, and patriotic. His State is proud of his record, and his life is an inspiration to everyone who hopes to impress himself upon the annals of his country.

He was respected, honored, and loved by his own people who knew him best, and for thirty years he never betrayed their trust. All that is mortal has gone to the dust; but those elements of moral worth and power which stimulate mankind to higher endeavor will live throughout the ages, and are to us who knew him a memory of unalloyed sweetness.

Well may it be said of him:

Statesman, yet friend to truth! of soul sincere,  
In action faithful, and in honour clear!  
Who broke no promise, served no private end,  
Who gained no title, and who lost no friend;  
Ennobled by himself, by all approved;  
Praised, wept, and honoured,  
Such this man was.

Peace to thy gentle shade and endless rest,  
Blest in thy genius, in thy love, too, blest;  
And blest, that timely from our seal removed  
Thy soul enjoys the liberty it loved.



#### ADDRESS OF MR. JOHNSTON, OF ALABAMA

MR. PRESIDENT: On Saturday, December 26, 1908, the Hon. ROBERT C. DAVEY, a Member of the House of Representatives from the second district of Louisiana, died in the fifty-fifth year of his age, and in New Orleans, the city where he was born and best known, and amongst the people who loved and honored him, and in whose service he had spent many useful years.

At the age of 29 he was elected to the State senate, and so capable and faithful was his service that he was twice reelected to this office.

In 1880 he was elected judge of the first recorder's court, and twice reelected to this office.

He was elected to the Fifty-third Congress; declined a reelection to the succeeding term; and again elected to the Fifty-eighth Congress, and continued to serve the people who loved and honored him until his death.

He was a strong, honest, sincere man, so full of human kindness and sympathy that all those who knew him were attached to him by the most enduring ties of friendship and respect.

Living, his people loved and honored him, and when he died there was not a soul amongst them that did not mourn the death of this good man, upright judge, and faithful representative.

In reading a brief sketch of him (Mr. DAVEY) by a paper published in his home city, I find this recorded of him:

His long service as magistrate gave him insight into the frailties of human beings such as few other men have. That, with his big



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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heart, made him one of the men to whom those in trouble went; of course he was often imposed upon by rascals, but he used to say that he could "better afford to be imposed upon than to make a mistake by refusing help."

This one graphic touch reveals the humanity that makes all the world akin, and shows the real cause of Mr. DAVEY's strong and far-reaching influence with his associates in Congress and elsewhere.

We can all picture to ourselves the kind of man that the poor, the needy—those in distress and affliction—would seek for aid and comfort.

The good Samaritan did not stop to inquire whether the man who fell amongst thieves was a worthy and virtuous citizen or not; he saw suffering humanity and straightway administered relief.

Too many of us want to circumscribe our charity and sympathy to worthy objects and to leave the fallen to the consequences of their own folly or evil deeds, instead of endeavoring to raise up those who fall and giving strength to those who stand.

I imagine, Mr. President, that when Mr. DAVEY stands before the Great White Throne to be judged for the deeds done in the flesh this one statement of his, that he could "better afford to be imposed upon than to make a mistake by refusing help," will count more with the Eternal Judge than the recital of all the places of trust he had worthily filled and all the honors that a grateful people had heaped upon him.

When he shall come to pass the sacred gate  
God shall not question, "What of gifts hast thou?"  
Nor, "Hath life graved thy name among the great?"  
But, "Wert thou tender, loving, soon and late?"



ADDRESS OF MR. LORIMER, OF ILLINOIS

MR. PRESIDENT: While I realize the days of all shall be numbered and I bow to the will of a Divine Providence, I can not but regret that ROBERT CHARLES DAVEY should have been taken so soon from this life.

It was my good fortune to have served eight years in the House of Representatives, during the time he graced that body as a Member. I had the pleasure of a close, personal acquaintance with him. I came to know the humane traits of his character. It was this side of the man that attracted people to him and caused them to love him. I never came in contact with a person who was more easily approached. He had a pleasant smile and warm greeting for all, whether they were of high or humble station in life. His good deeds did not end with kind words and warm greetings. He never failed to respond when called upon to aid, when his efforts might help one in need. He was ever ready to help those in stringent financial circumstances, even to dividing with them the contents of his own purse. When he pledged his word all knew it would be redeemed if he lived. He was an optimist; he always saw something in life worth living for. I never knew a more kindly hearted person. He was always happiest when doing something to help and please others.

But, with all his kindness of heart, he was a strong, vigorous, brave man; always found standing out in the open, boldly and fearlessly proclaiming and contending



for the principles for which he stood. As a Democrat he fought with great vigor and directness for his party, never flinching under fire and ever contesting every inch of ground over which the battle waged, and all this without malice for his opponent. He accorded to others always that which he demanded for himself—the privilege of doing the right as God gave him the light to see it. He was modest and unpretentious, well informed on the affairs of the nation; and as a doer of things for his constituents he had no peer in Congress.

Mr. President, I would that all mankind might be blessed with the same intellectual clearness, strength of character, energy, fairness of mind and action, the same courage of conviction, honesty of purpose, the same tolerant and kindly spirit, as that possessed by Judge DAVEY. A world made up of such men as he! Oh, what a world this would be!

If living a life of rectitude, kindness, and charity to humankind; if following the injunction of the most righteous and equitable law ever laid down—"Do unto others even as you would have others do unto you"—justifies man in the hope of receiving the grace of his Maker, then may it truthfully be said that ROBERT DAVEY, at the time he laid down his burden of life and its perplexities, was entitled to say, as did the sweet singer of Israel:

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me. Thy rod and Thy staff  
they comfort me.

Mr. President, one of the pleasant memories of my life will be the friendship of Judge ROBERT CHARLES DAVEY.



### ADDRESS OF MR. FOSTER, OF LOUISIANA

MR. PRESIDENT: ROBERT CHARLES DAVEY was born in New Orleans October 22, 1853. He received a primary education in the schools of that city, but completed his studies at St. Vincent's College, Cape Girardeau, Mo., from which he graduated in 1871 well equipped for the struggle of life.

His first inclination was to practice law, but on returning to his native city he finally chose a commercial career instead, and for several years was engaged in active business life.

He was finally induced by his many friends, however, to give up a commercial for a public career.

Party strife, Mr. President, ran high in the late seventies and early eighties in New Orleans; factional feeling was, if anything, even more bitter and the local organizations were rent with internal strife.

Viewed from a party standpoint there was an especially ugly and threatening situation in the second ward, where Mr. DAVEY made his home, and to put the party house in order the leaders of the warring factions induced the young merchant in 1878 to stand for election to the State Central Committee. After some hesitancy he consented, was elected, and with the exception of a single term of two years, when he voluntarily retired, was member of that body up to the date of his death.

Prior to that, however, his mettle had been tested. He had been a member of the White League, and four years



before, on the memorable 14th of September, 1874, had gallantly participated in the battle resulting in the overthrow of the government which had been forced upon the people of that city.

He was elected recorder of the principal police court of the city in 1880, and served in that capacity for eight years. It was in this so-called poor man's court, where he dispensed justice tempered with mercy, that he acquired that knowledge of human nature that served him well all through his public career, and it was here that much of that loyal and devoted following was built up which manifested itself whenever he submitted his candidacy to the people, and finally, when bowed with grief, joined with the more fortunate elements of the community in making his funeral one of the most notable ever seen in New Orleans.

In 1878 he was tendered the nomination of member of the house of representatives of the State General Assembly, but declined it. The following year he was elected to the State senate. The close attention to matters concerning his constituency, the industry and the intelligence that characterized his public service marked him early for distinction in the State senate, and he was elected president pro tempore at the session of 1884, and again in 1886.

Two years later, in 1888, he was nominated for mayor by the Democratic party of New Orleans, and while his banner went down in a factional contest, his personal popularity was attested by the fact that he ran far ahead of his ticket.

Following this contest he resumed commercial life for a brief period, but was soon recalled to political activity. In 1892 he was reelected to the State senate, but after serving one session resigned in order to be elected to Congress from the Second Louisiana District. With the



exception of one term, when he declined renomination, he had been a Member of the other House ever since.

As a Congressman his duties were numerous and exacting. They were discharged, however, with such fidelity, the results obtained were so satisfying, and the persons and interests concerned so pleased with the zeal and success displayed in matters affecting their welfare that, without hesitancy, they placed the seal of approval upon his every subsequent candidacy; and he was nominated without opposition in his own party and was elected practically without opposition.

And, Mr. President, this has more than ordinary import when the complexity of the interests he represented is considered. There are large agricultural interests whose very existence depends on the cooperation of the Federal Government in maintaining a levee system against the floods that pour down the Mississippi from other States, and these demand a Representative here who can command great influence in Congress.

The other part of his constituency was the great port of the Mississippi Valley and the South, with the myriad interests and demands that always attend upon shipping and trade. Yet he discharged their demands so faithfully and well that the commercial and industrial bodies of that city were no less loyal and united in their support than the farmers and planters living in the upper stretches of the district, in the parishes of Jefferson, St. Charles, St. John, and St. James.

His work in the interest of the city was well known and appreciated no less in Congress than at home, and when this Government added a new revenue cutter to its fleet a few years ago, assigning it to the New Orleans station, the highest tribute within its gift was paid him by christening the vessel the *Davey*.



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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His name will be associated for all time with the new post office now being erected in that city, which he labored so many years to secure. This was the last of many public acts in the interest of his native city and must remain, after all who are now living have been gathered to their reward, as a tribute to his devotion to public duty and trust.

It was the fate of Judge DAVEY, like most members from his section in recent years, to serve with the minority in Congress, and as under our system of Government the dominant party is responsible for the laws enacted, the part played by the minority members is not always known or little understood.

But the friends who served with him on the important Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce in the other House are familiar with the great service he rendered. As the ranking member of the minority on that committee, he not only participated but took an important part in shaping some of the most important legislation in recent years.

He was one of the conferees on the disagreement between the House and Senate when the Isthmian Canal bill was passed, and his name will ever be associated with the rate bill enacted in the closing years of President Roosevelt's administration for having presented the report on the Davey bill setting forth the views of the minority with respect to this legislation.

He seldom spoke, but his remarks always commanded the most careful attention when he did address the House. This was notably the case when certain legislation affecting the public health was under consideration a few years ago. Many Members, especially of his own party, were inclined to think that the proposed measure might result in the federal usurpation of states' rights, and the passage of the bill was endangered until he took the floor.



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ADDRESS OF MR. FOSTER, OF LOUISIANA

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In a brief but powerfully earnest speech he told the House of the horrors and suffering he had witnessed in the yellow-fever epidemics in New Orleans, and which the measure under consideration was intended to prevent in future. When he concluded the fate of the bill was no longer in doubt. It passed by an overwhelming majority.

He was strictly a party man, and, while throughout life a devout worshipper at the shrine of regularity, he incurred none of the abuse that is usually leveled at men of his class in public life. His was the wealthiest and in some respects the most cosmopolitan district in the State, for while he lived in New Orleans and represented half its people, yet four of the leading country parishes, in which are located some of the finest plantations in Louisiana, were also served by him, and these were as loyal to his leadership as his own ward, and in all of his contests none gave him more constant and loyal support than did the people of the country parishes.

BOB DAVEY was not only a kindly but he was a charitable man. He was ever ready, as far as his means would permit, to give to the poor and needy and to extend help and aid to those in trouble and distress.

He was an affectionate husband, ever anxious and willing to contribute to the happiness of the wife who bore life's burdens with him and who was for many years herself a sufferer.

He was one of the most indulgent and affectionate fathers I ever knew, and his daughters gave him the wealth of love which threw a halo of sunshine through the gloom of the sick chamber where he for so many months lay ill.

He was a good citizen, ever looking to the uplifting and betterment of his fellow-man. He was a loyal friend, and in storm or sunshine never deserted or faltered in fidelity



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MEMORIAL ADDRESSES: REPRESENTATIVE DAVEY

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to his friends. He was as loyal to them in defeat as in victory.

As a public servant he was faithful in the performance of his duty and unfaltering in support of those interests of his constituency committed to his trust.

As an opponent he was frank and fair. He fought in the open—he never struck in the back or shot from the brush.

He was a leader of undaunted courage; and what was more than all, he was a man who had the courage of his convictions.

He never faltered in a fight. When he lifted his banner and summoned his followers to its support, each and every one who followed knew they had a leader whom they could implicitly trust, and, Mr. President, they did trust him, and the people of his district and State trusted him.

The highest tribute I can pay his memory to-day is to state this one fact, that the great trust which a portion of the people of my State imposed on him was cherished by him as absolutely sacred and was never in the slightest way betrayed.

The great and high honor which his constituency had for so many years bestowed with grateful appreciation on him was never tarnished, but at the end of many years of hard and faithful service returned to them unsullied and as spotless as the hour in which they first conferred it on him.

When the summons from beyond called him to join that innumerable band which leads to mysterious realms, where each shall take his place in line, he laid down the trust as unsullied and untarnished as when it was first committed to his keeping.

Mr. McENERY. Mr. President, I offer the resolution which I send to the desk, and ask for its adoption.



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ADDRESS OF MR. FOSTER, OF LOUISIANA

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The Secretary read the resolution, as follows:

*Resolved*, That as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, the Senate do now adjourn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to; and (at 5 o'clock and 10 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned until to-morrow, Tuesday, April 19, 1910, at 12 o'clock meridian.





























